

RED RIVER GORGE PREHISTORIC TIMES

10,000 BC – 1700 AD

Heritage Resources managed by
the U.S. Forest Service

Johnny Faulkner - Archaeology



ENDLESS CLIFFLINE

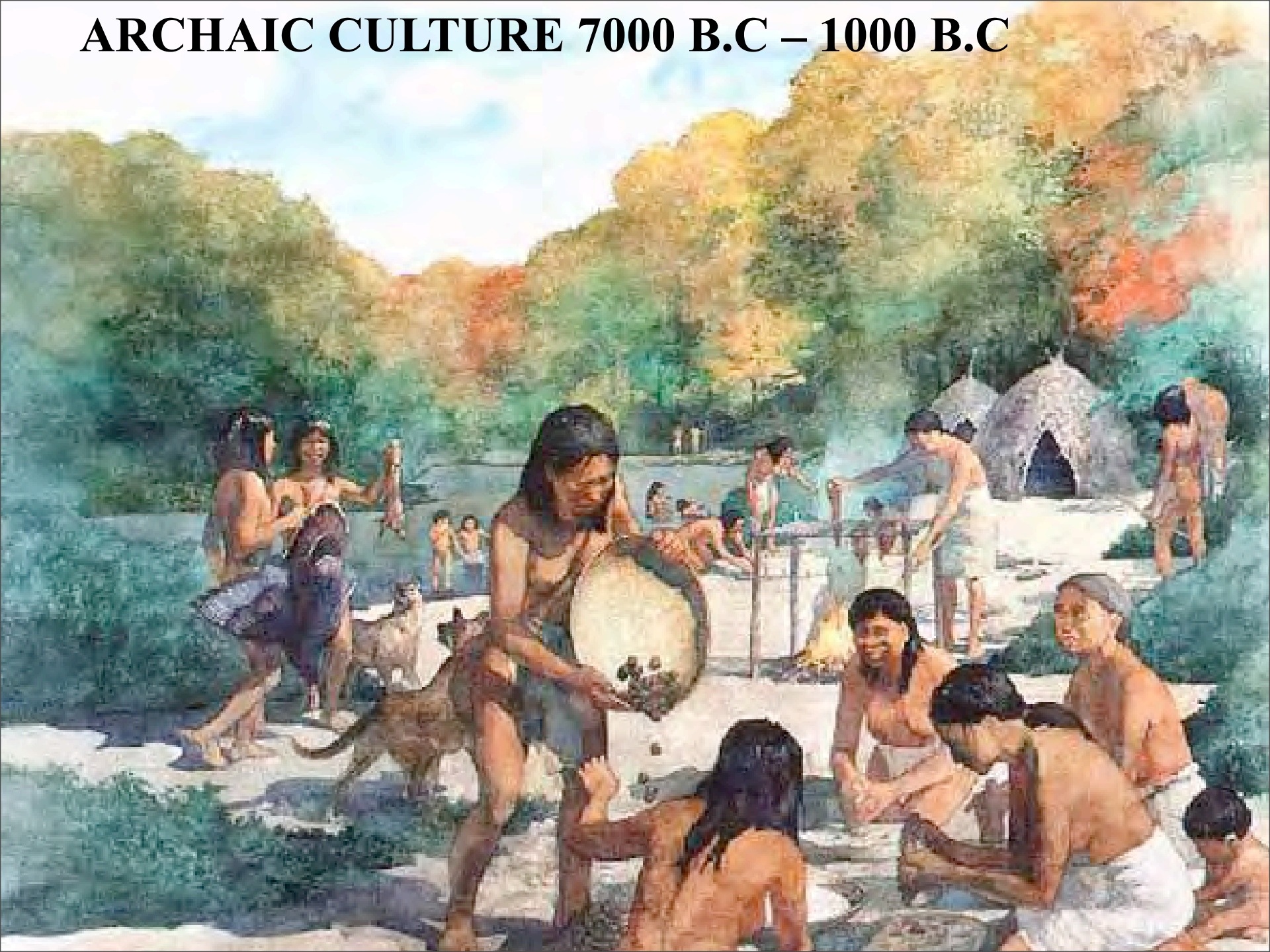


**Native Americans made the
area home & utilized the
bounty of resources**

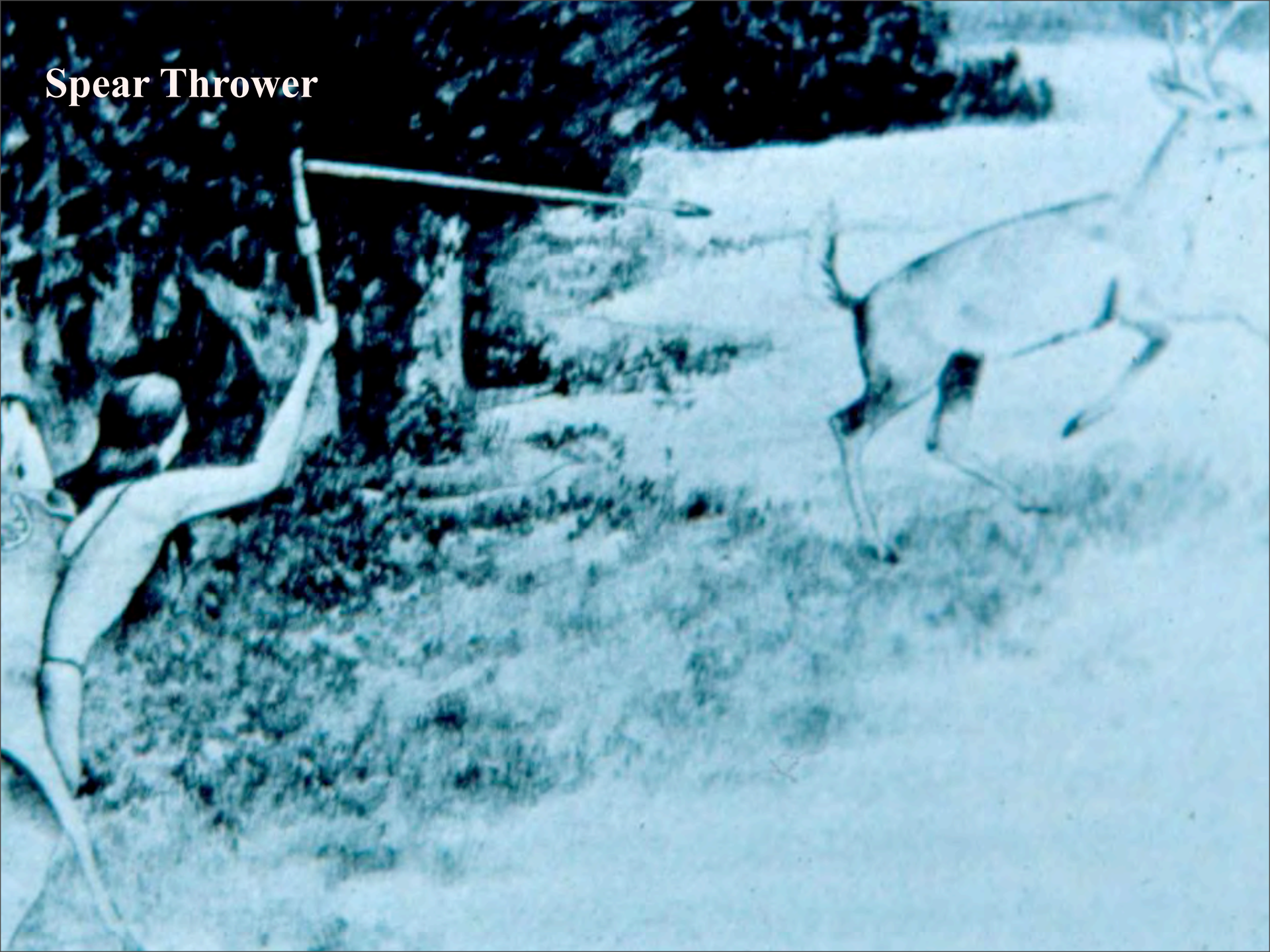
PALEO CULTURE 10,000 B.C – 7000 B.C.



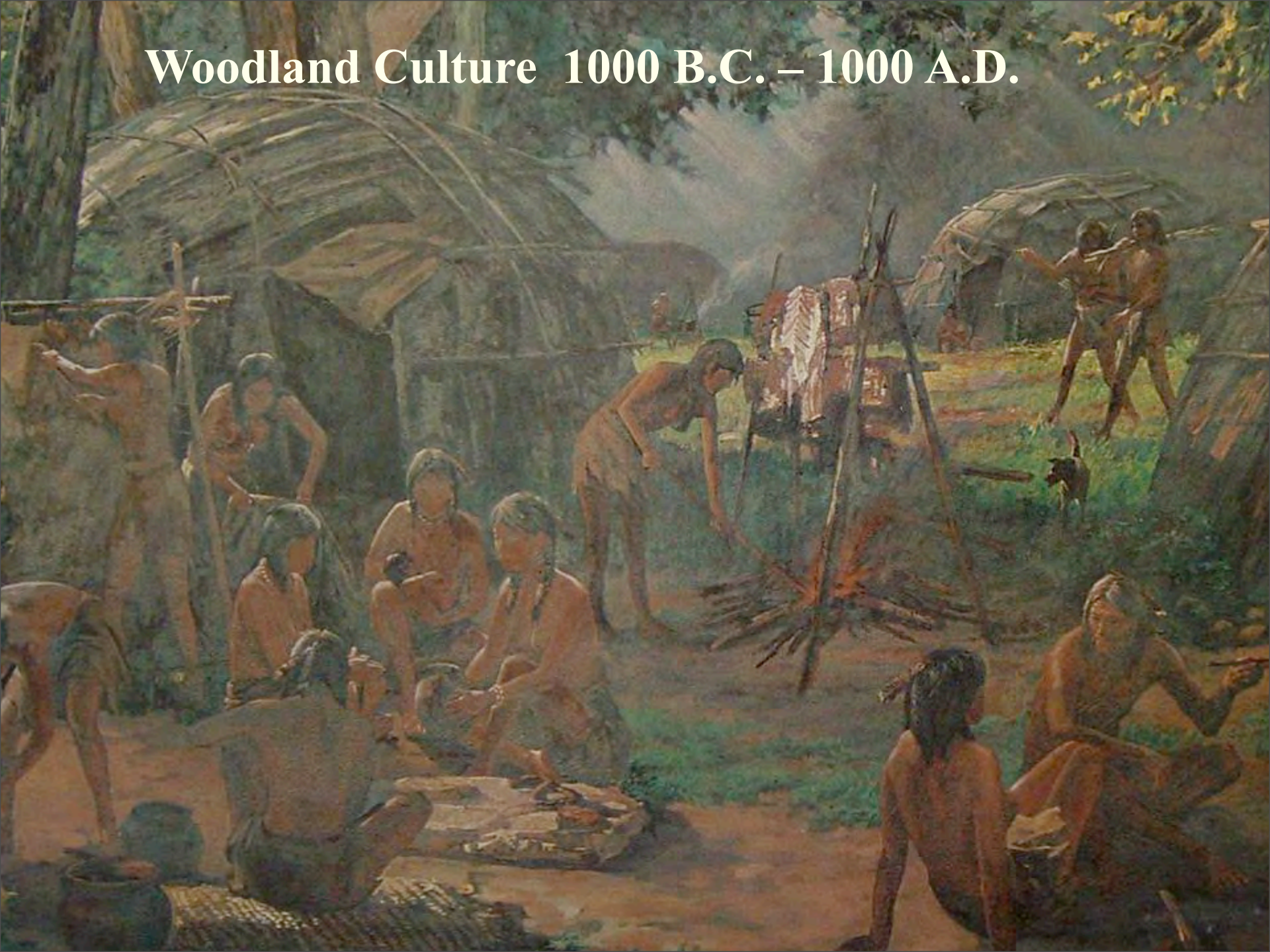
ARCHAIC CULTURE 7000 B.C – 1000 B.C



Spear Thrower



Woodland Culture 1000 B.C. – 1000 A.D.



FT. ANCIENT CULTURE 1000 A.D. - 1700



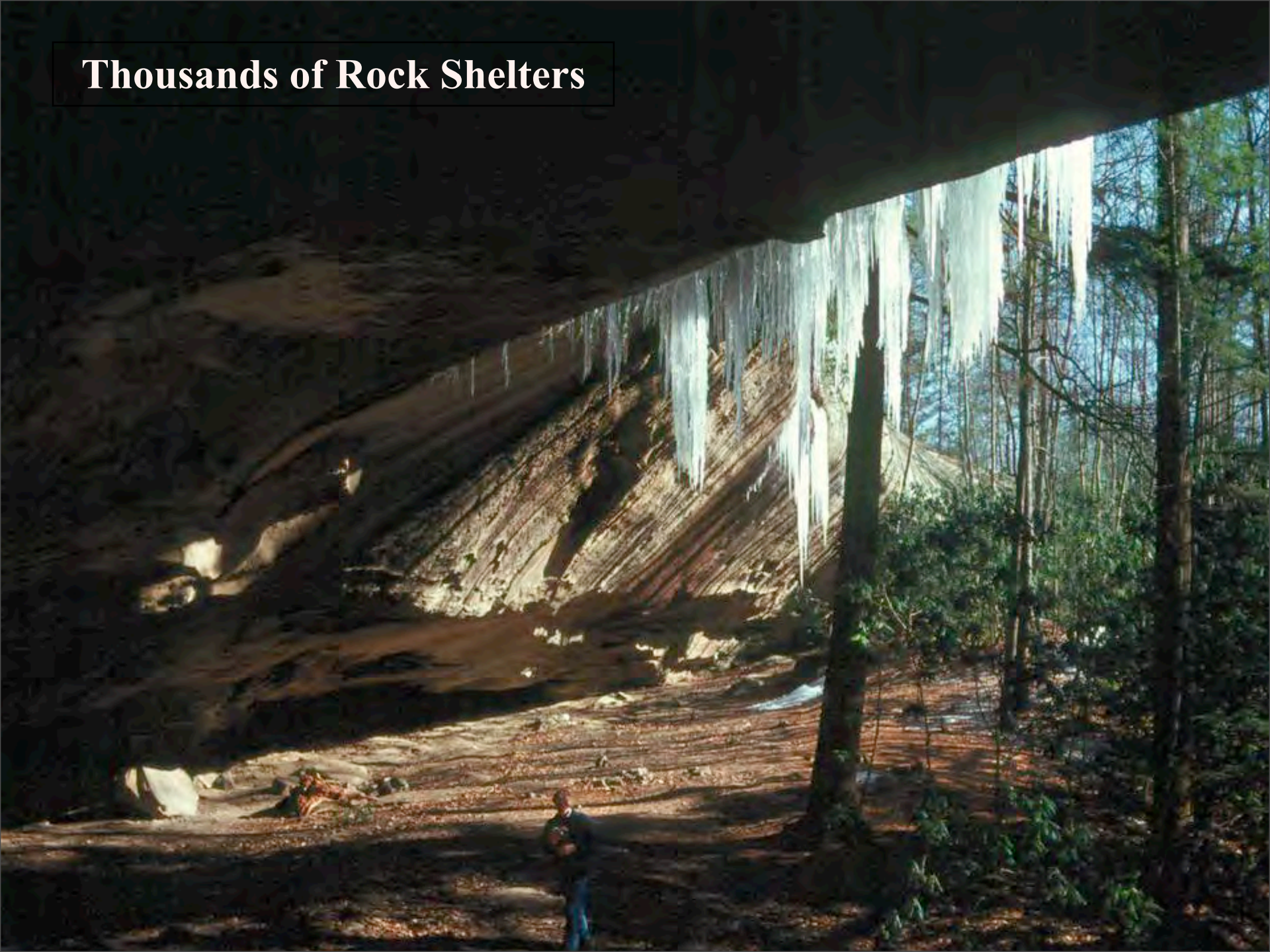


Vertical Cliffline is common

Upper Tier Cliffline



Thousands of Rock Shelters

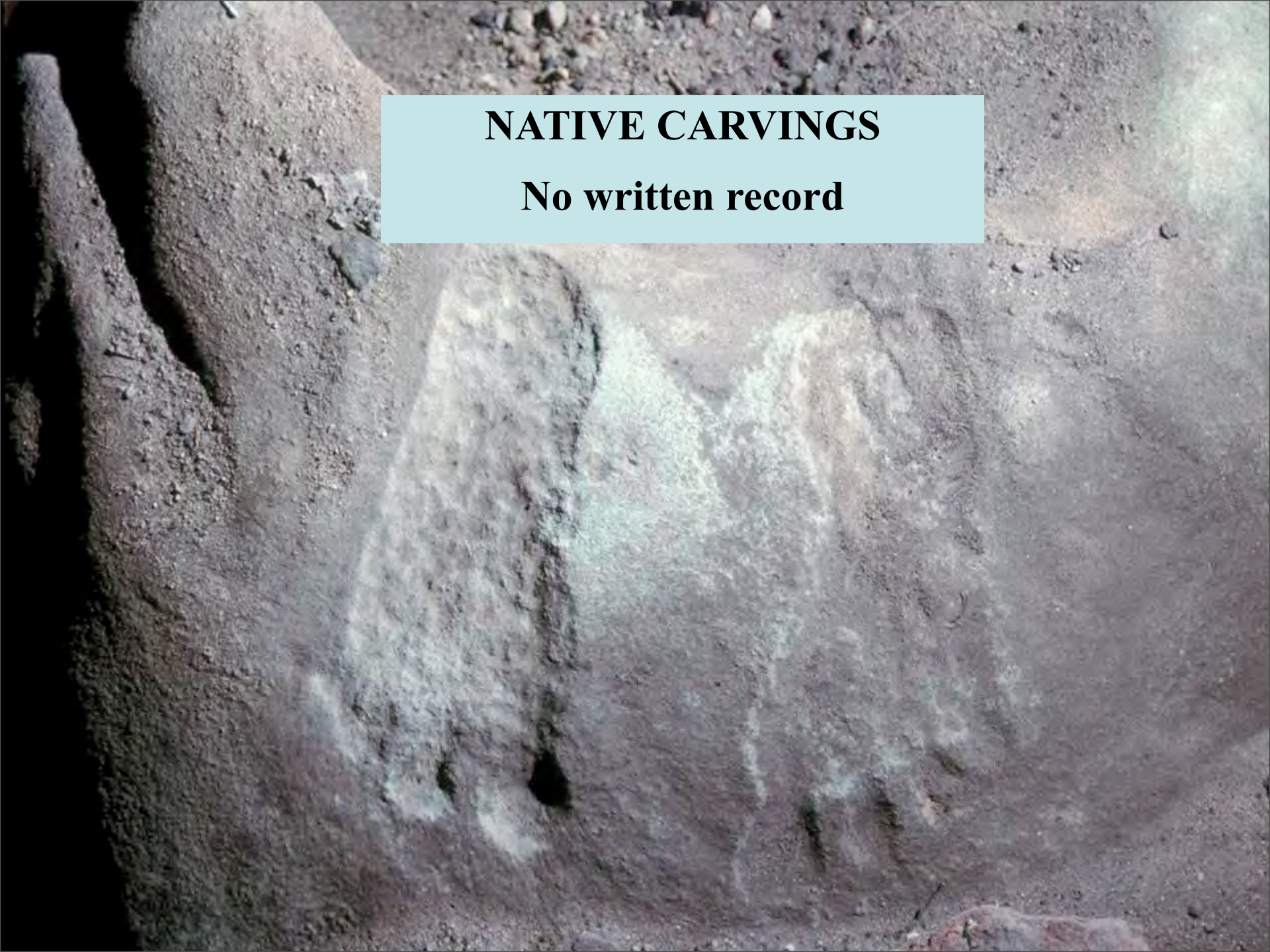


Rockhouse



NATIVE CARVINGS

No written record



Concentric Circle



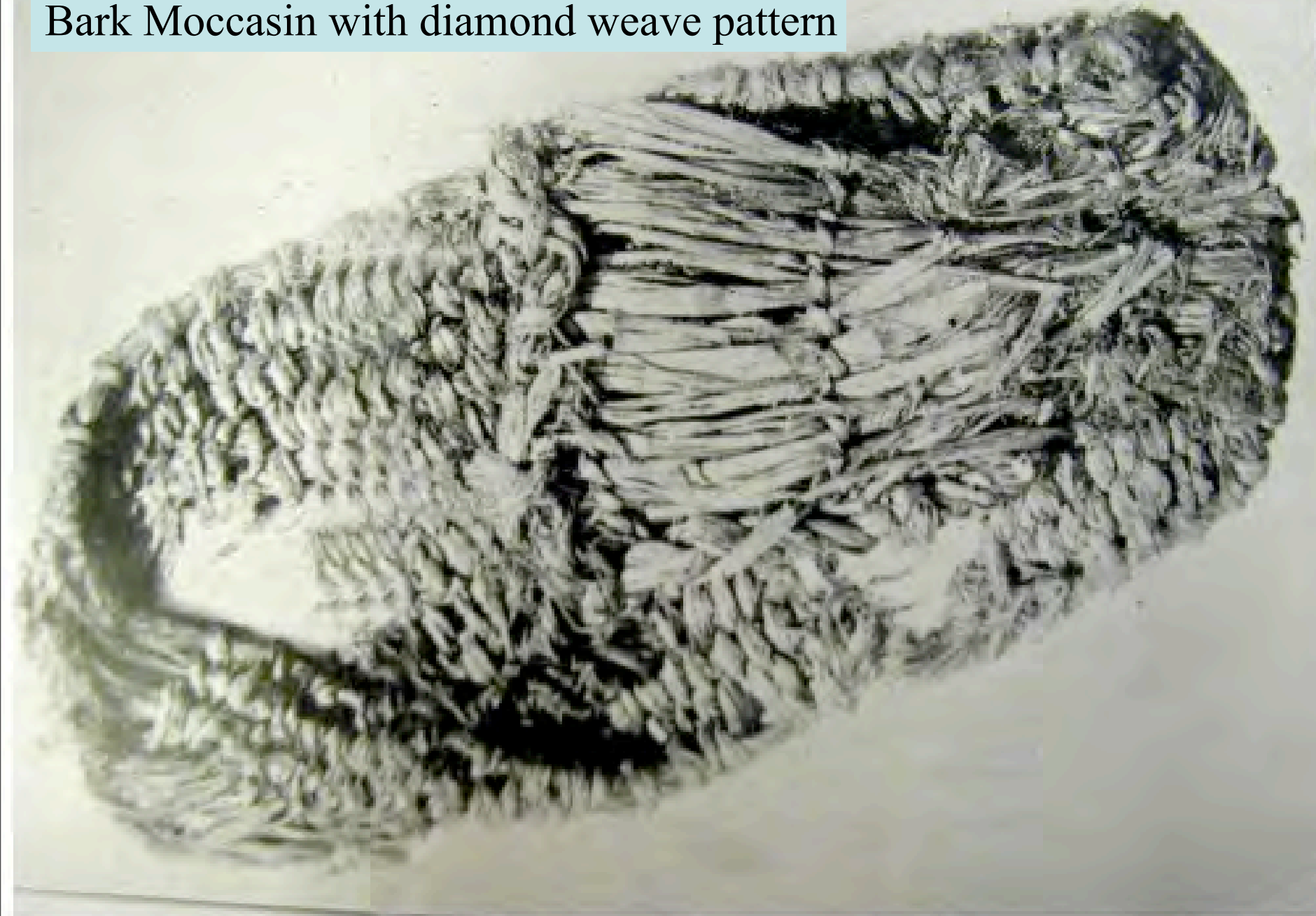


**AXE SHARPENING GROOVE ON
BOULDER**

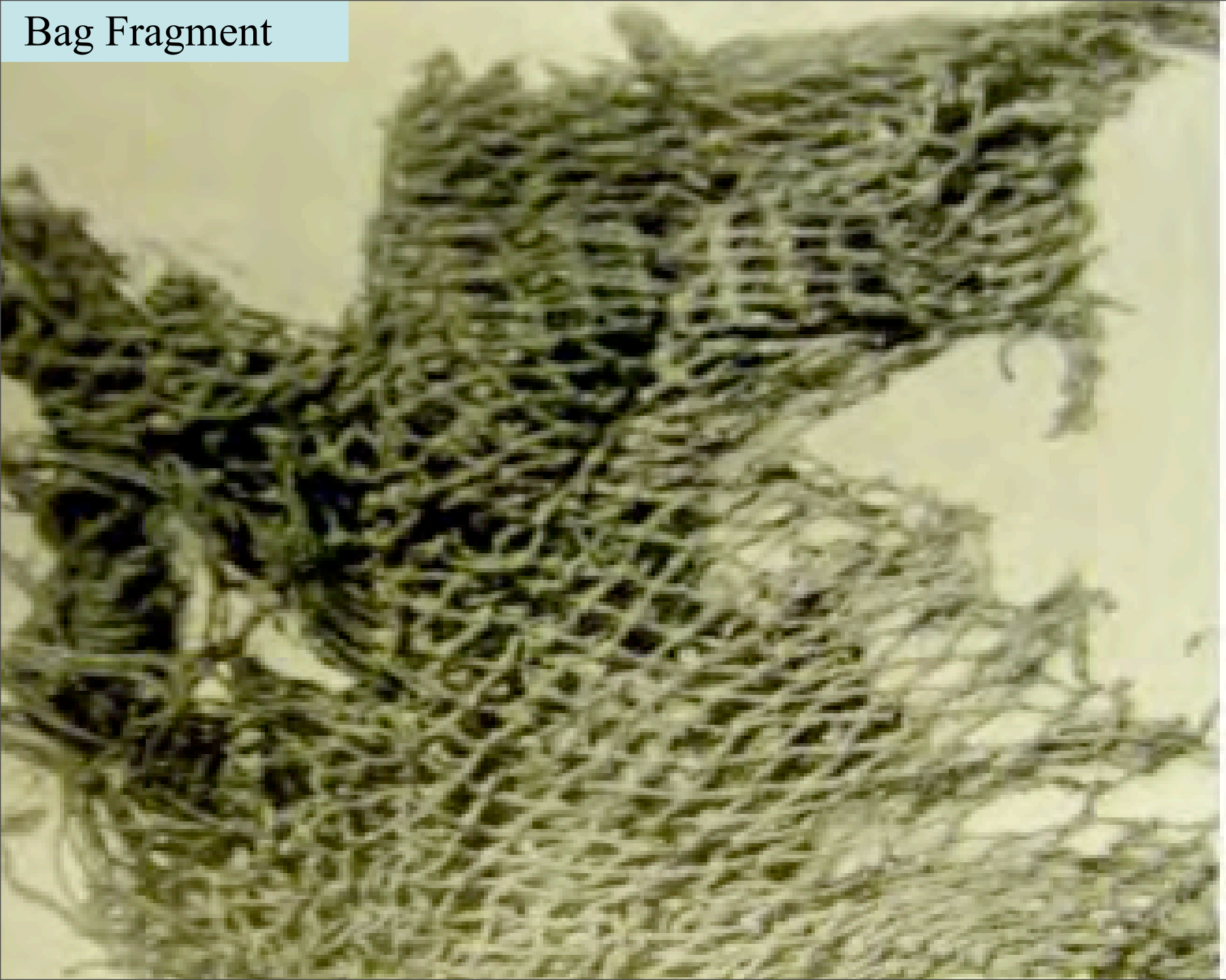
**Remains of pit, lined with
leaves/grass to store wild
nuts**



Bark Moccasin with diamond weave pattern



Bag Fragment



Cultivated Plants and Wild nuts/seeds

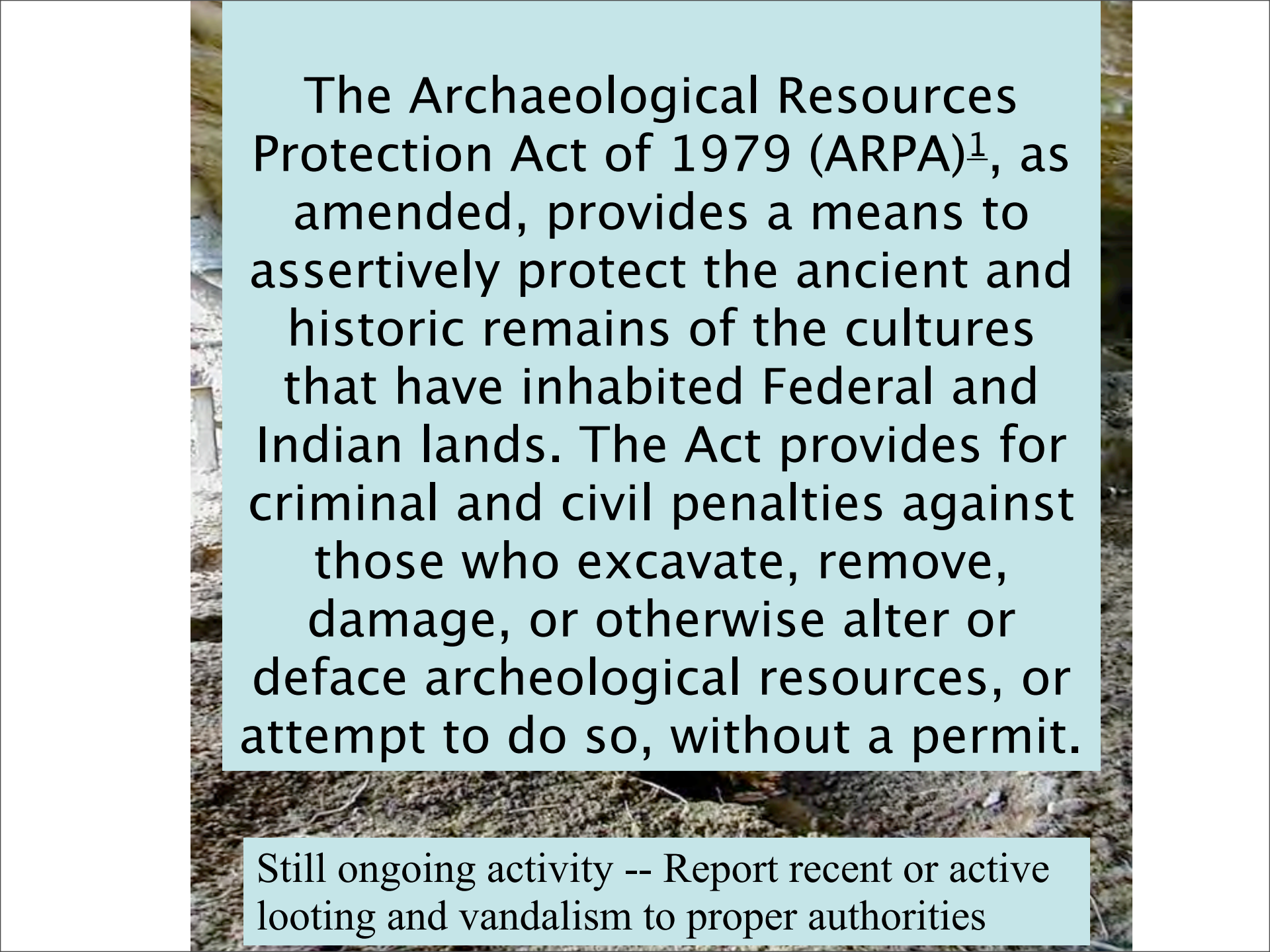


Origin of agriculture

Relic Digging (Looting)

Damage to Rockshelter Sites – Thousands of years of our heritage destroyed in just a week of looting adventure





The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA)¹, as amended, provides a means to assertively protect the ancient and historic remains of the cultures that have inhabited Federal and Indian lands. The Act provides for criminal and civil penalties against those who excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface archeological resources, or attempt to do so, without a permit.

Still ongoing activity -- Report recent or active looting and vandalism to proper authorities

Artifact Display



Looter Spoil Pile

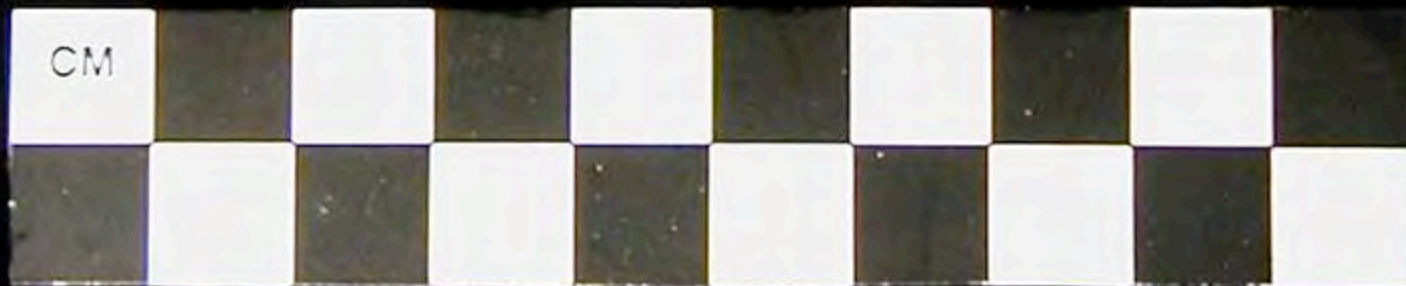


Early (1970s) Archaeological Recommendations

- historical, cultural, scientific and social significance is tremendous**
- This non-renewable resource must be protected or it will be destroyed**
- Dispersed recreation has reached a saturation point, Forest Service needs to act soon to restrict numbers of people visiting the Gorge, in order to protect the fragile archaeological resources**



SPEAR POINTS



**BIFACES-early stage
products for making spear
and arrow points**





Limestone hoe





**Worked bone, shell
tools for knife
handle, awls, and
ornaments**





Cordage (twisted strings made of plant/tree fibers)



**River Cane Mat Fragment with carbon
date of 1500 A.D.**

Extirpated Mussel Species no longer present in the Red River, was here thousands of years ago- used by the past Natives Americans....

